

Julian F. Scott, a prominent and popular citizen of Scott county, E. Tenn., was drowned on the 7th inst., while attempting to ford Emory River. He was the character from whom originated Mark Twain's "Col. Sellers," and was a school mate and bosom friend of Mr. Clemens.

Ninety cases of Small Pox have been reported to the Illinois State Board of Health within the last seven weeks, from sixty-one points in that State. The disease is reported as spreading through the counties along the Mississippi River from Dubuque down.

Mr. Geo. M. Pullman, the main man in the Pullman Car Company, is about 47 years old, and has accumulated a fortune of over \$15,000,000.

The Valley Virginian correctly says that was a small thing in Ex-Governor Holliday to stay away when his successor, Gov. Cameron, took the oath of office as Governor. But then even those who rejoiced when Holliday vetoed, time and again his own web-letter, have not recently accused him of being a large man. A small wedge may be made to rend an oak or slab of granite, and the Ex-Governor has prefixed this significant *Ex* to the Conservative party. Virginia has vetoed him.

The Norfolk & Western Co. are working now 1200 hands on the line from New River Bridge to Abbeys Valley, in Tazewell Co., where they own 40,000 acres of coal land, covering one seam eleven feet thick, and 15,000 acres of iron land, the latter being in Giles.

Let us let the Ex-Governor alone. He has excelled himself on the gallows of public opinion. Nemesis is on his track, and let him and Nemesis have a fair fight.

The letter of Gen. Grant in which he acknowledges that for nineteen years he has done injustice to a brave and meritorious officer in the person of Fitz John Porter, is one that reflects more fame on him than any battle he ever fought. It is frank and manly.

[COMMUNICATED.]  
From Rich Valley.

Mr. Editor:

I thought I would give you a few items from our section of the country. Your valuable paper is ever welcomed by the citizens of our valley. Since the election everything has been quiet, and the farmers are busy fixing fences and preparing for Spring.

Mr. Tom Spore's sons have built them a nice stone-house close to Grange Hall, and they are doing a good business. They have built up a good trade by square and fair dealing with everybody. Mr. Mack Kayser has opened a store on the corner of Wolfe Run, and doing a good business. Mr. Henry Collins has remodelled his house—weather-boarded it up nicely. He took advantage of Mr. Flinders Barker's steam saw mill and got the lumber cheap, right at his door. Wheat looks splendid. I think if we have no bad luck with it we will have a good crop this year.

What has become of the N. G. R. R.? We miss the convicts greatly from our Valley. Capt. Bibb and his son Robt. made things lively over here for awhile in the way of building a road. Robert Bibb could move more rock with a squad of men than any person I ever saw. He certainly understood working in rock, and his father was pushing the dirt work. Give them hands enough and they could build the road soon. There is no better railroad man in the country than Capt. Tom Bibb, and his son is a "chip of the old block." Wishing you a Happy New Year, I will close.  
Jan 12, 1882. OBSERVER.

GOV. CAMERON.  
His First Message to the General Assembly.

RECOMMENDS THE RIDDERBERGER BILL—OPPOSES MIXED SCHOOLS—FAYORS A FREE RAILROAD AND A FAIR COURT—OPPOSES RAILROAD MONOPOLIES—FAYORS LIBERAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR AGRICULTURE.

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA,  
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE,  
RICHMOND, JANUARY 6, 1882.

To the General Assembly of Virginia:  
Pursuant to notice of my election by the people, received through a committee of your body, I have taken the oath prescribed by law and have entered upon the office of Governor.  
The constitutional duty of communicating to each session of the General Assembly the condition of the Commonwealth has already been performed by my predecessor in the transmission to you of full reports from all the heads of departments. But the Governor is required to recommend to the consideration of the General Assembly such measures as he may deem expedient.

This latter matter I proceed briefly to discharge in firm faith that the principles and purposes which have received emphatic endorsement from the people of Virginia will not fail to command the support of their representatives.  
In the use of the authority entrusted to me I have no other aim than to maintain the true honor and foster the substantial interests of the State, and in pursuit of these objects I know no better guides than the Constitution and that which the sovereign voice of this Commonwealth has declared at the ballot-box.

THE PUBLIC DEBT.  
I recommend the adoption of measures without unnecessary delay which shall provide for the discharge of our public obligations upon the basis set forth in the act passed by the last General Assembly and known as the Ridderberger bill. No greater boon can be given this people than a speedy, equitable and final settlement of all controversy concerning

the State debt. Great misapprehension exists as to the purpose of the people of Virginia in this regard. Conflicting courses of legislation in the past and statements as to the revenues and resources proved to be erroneous by subsequent events, have tended to confuse the popular mind and to produce gross discrimination between the several classes of Virginia's obligations, though in law and in equity the whole should have been homogeneous and of equal value. As I understand the views and will of the people of this State, they do not intend to repudiate any just obligation, but to assume and to pay that proportion of the principal which is properly chargeable to the present State of Virginia, and to restore all classes of creditors to a plane of equality. We are at no loss to determine the proposition of the ante-bellum debt which this Commonwealth should assume, for the Supreme Court of the United States has adjudicated that question.

With the sanction of that high tribunal to the proposition that two-thirds of the original sum is the just share thereof to be borne by Virginia, the true indebtedness of this State can be mathematically determined:

First, By computing full interest to the date of the settlement from the period when Virginia lost control of and ceased to derive revenue from the territory embraced in West Virginia.

Second, By crediting against the sum total of principal and interest so obtained the acknowledged payments on both accounts made by Virginia since the partition of her territory.

If this shall be done and provision made for liquidation of the amount so found to be due, no charge of repudiation can be rightly laid at the door of the people of the Commonwealth. In the scheme of this settlement above referred to different rates of funding were prescribed for the several classes of bonds. This was necessary to equitable application of the payments heretofore made and to preserve the well established principles of law, that equality is equity among creditors of equal dignity.

As to the rate of interest which can and should be paid on the principal so ascertained and assumed, all parties in this State are agreed that the present rate of taxation cannot be increased. Common consent on this point in connection with the last assessment determines, then, the amount of public revenue. This revenue is principally applicable to the support of the Government, upon the maintenance of which rests the only hope that any public obligation will be provided for or discharged. The Constitution is imperative that one-fifth of all the tax upon property shall be appropriated to the public free-school system. The charitable institutions of this State impose upon the body politic obligations and responsibilities of dignity and priority which the voice of humanity cannot question.

With these demands upon a fixed revenue the only question is what rate of interest can with certainty and promptitude be paid upon an already ascertained indebtedness. And careful estimates establish the proposition that 3 per centum is the largest rate that can be provided for with certainty of meeting the semi-annual payments and with safety to the other claims above enumerated. We are supported in this conclusion not only by the financial experience of many years, but also by the fact that the proposed interest is as great as the average rate paid by the debtor class of the present day.

These views are advanced in the firm conviction that an settlement based on the general principles indicated above, to be applied with such details of method as your wisdom will supply, would meet the smelter of the people (which is essential to any settlement), would satisfy all the demands of honesty, and result in eventual benefit to the bondholders.

German to the debt question is the subject of the.

PUBLIC FREE SCHOOLS.

This system is the object of special provision by the Constitution. A considerable portion of the fund dedicated to educational objects by the Constitution has been by the course of the past legislation and administration diverted to the great detriment of the school system. This course has been pursued upon the theory that statutory enactments of 1871 could abrogate and nullify a mandate of the Constitution of 1869, setting apart to the free schools at least one-fifth of the revenues. I cannot sustain such a construction, because it ignores the fact that this portion of the revenues was solemnly dedicated to this particular object by the Constitution, and is the only part of the revenues the control and disposition of which was taken from the Legislature by that instrument. I believe that measures may be devised and recommended that immediate action be taken to preserve the school fund from future invasion, and to restore to it as speedily as practicable the amount which has been diverted.

This protected and receiving regularly its rightful quota, the system is capable of great improvement, not only in the increased number of schools and in the length of term, but in provision for the higher education of all classes. I think it would be eminently proper to grant to our colored citizens an institution in which those who have acquired proficiency in common schools may be given the opportunity for broader training. The education of this class of our community is a duty which we owe not only to them but to the State. Self-interest, if no higher motive, dictates that we spare no efforts to fit for citizenship all upon whom we have conferred its privileges and responsibilities.

MIXED SCHOOLS.  
The question of mixed schools calls for no discussion. No class of citizens desires them, and I am satisfied that a change in the present arrangement would operate injuriously.  
In contributing as liberally as is consistent with our revenues to all our educational institutions (for there is no antagonism between them, and all should be fostered), we are encouraged to hope that at no distant day we shall receive substantial assistance from the National Government.

SUFFRAGE.  
First in prominence upon the subject of suffrage is the question whether the constitutional requirement of the payment of a capitation tax as a pre-requisite to voting shall continue or be repealed. I believe that public sentiment is overwhelmingly in favor of its repeal. The only argument advanced to sustain it was that it would facilitate and insure the collection of the tax. The ex-

perience of five years since its adoption has proved it to be a failure as a revenue measure, but if it continues to be maintained in that direction, I regard the abuse and frauds to which it has given rise as many times counterbalancing any benefits, real or fancied, which it possesses. In principle it is wrong and in practice debasing. Other and better means of collecting the capitation tax may be devised without raising the floodgates of corruption by making its payment a condition precedent to voting.

REGISTRATION LAWS.

I recommend a careful revision of the registration and election laws. Many years have elapsed since the system was adopted. The question of a new general registration is one which in my judgment calls for the attention of your body, and the present registration laws are in several respects unnecessarily complicated and difficult of construction. In the interest of a full and free expression of the popular will I recommend a rigid scrutiny and purging of the election laws—many of the provisions of which are subversive of the ends professedly sought.

The basis of all republican government is popular content and confidence. Both are secured when the people are satisfied that having freely sought the ballot-box their votes have been recorded and returned according to the truth. Any system which is so framed as to admit doubts upon these points must, whether it be honestly or fraudulently administered, breed popular discontent. Elections should, as far as possible, take place in sight of the public.

I would recommend the passage of mandatory provisions for the appointment of judges of election from opposing political parties, with penalties attached for failure in the appointing power to observe the requirements, and admitting the presence of representatives of each political party interested in an election while the vote is received, canvassed, counted and certified.

RAILROADS.

Our people are alive to the great benefits in the way of material development flowing from the presence in our midst, and proper application to public ends, of the capital and enterprise of these powerful corporations. Though the State has parted with almost her entire interest as stockholder in several of them, and is not to be censured for this, she is not to be censured for the fact that she has permitted the presence of representatives of each political party interested in an election while the vote is received, canvassed, counted and certified.

The experience of other communities has demonstrated not alone the necessity, but the practicability of such policy. I earnestly commend to your consideration of the General Assembly the laws by which other States of the Union—notably, the States of California and Georgia—regulate the railway administration within their borders; laws which have won the examination of the courts and survived the test of experiment to the satisfaction of the people without injury to the railroads.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

In such examination as I have been able to make into the condition of the different departments of the State, I am convinced that inadequate provision is made for the Department of Agriculture. Ours is preeminently an agricultural community. The history of past legislation in the State, strange to say, shows that while our statute books record a multitude of laws, almost every other interest, little or no attention has been paid to this our greatest source of wealth. The producers of Virginia have certainly an equal claim with any other class upon the consideration of the Government. While I am not prepared to suggest the form or extent of the improvement which should be made in this department, I am satisfied that a wider scope should be given its operations, and more liberal appropriations should be made to cover them. And in this connection as directly concerning the interests of the land owners, I would endorse the suggestion of the Commissioner for the attachment of a mineral bureau to this department.

CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.

Virginia by reason of the agricultural pursuits of her people and the absence of existing employment, was blessed in the past in the small percentage of unfortunate dependent upon public charity. But since the excitement and distresses of recent years the proportion has largely increased, and of late the public goods have been the only asylum for too many of those cursed with the heaviest afflictions to which mankind is subject. It is not necessary here to refer to the causes, not all avoidable, for this deplorable state of affairs. It will suffice to express the belief that the General Assembly will extend all possible aid to the institutions for the insane and other unfortunate; and that when reasons of the revenues shall be restored to the representatives of the people, all persons for regret or complaint in this regard shall be removed.

FEDERAL RELATIONS, &c.

I conclude my message by congratulating the General Assembly upon the peace existing within our borders and upon the pregnant signs of more amicable relations between all sections and all the people of our common country. The assumption is not unwarranted that recent events in Virginia have served to give an emphatic impulse to liberal sentiment throughout the land. That a better dawn upon us is unavoidable by the fact that, for the first time in nearly a quarter of a century, the President of the United States, in his annual message to Congress, finds no occasion to allude to sectional differences; nor is there any point at issue between this Commonwealth and the Government of

the United States to call for discussion in this paper of Federal relations. Alive and responsive to the approach of "a more perfect union," Virginia, always in the van of great national events, furnishes a grave upon her soil for the vexed question of a color line in politics. To-day Virginia stands before the world offering all the blessings of free citizenship, of absolute freedom in politics and religion to those who seek her borders. Appealing for a harmonious sisterhood of States, in which sectional jealousies shall be unknown, and in each of which shall be illustrated the spirit of Americanism, broad as the limits of the continent, she points the way by leading it, and by pledging tolerance to every creed of party or church, save only the creed of intolerance and proscription. The laws of Virginia guarantee equal protection and privilege to every citizen; and the people of the Commonwealth have ordered that all departments of the Government shall execute the spirit and letter of those laws.

WILLIAM E. CAMERON.

The gentlemen who essayed to serenade Miss L. a few evenings since, should have had "clear" throats, and their efforts would have been better appreciated. Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup is the best remedy extant for a "chick" or congested condition of the throat and Bronchial Tubes, giving instant relief.

Coffee drinkers should read the advertisement in another column headed Good Coffee.

One Experience from Many.

I had been sick and miserable so long and had caused my husband so much trouble and expense, no one seemed to know what ailed me, that I was completely disheartened and discouraged. In this frame of mind I got a bottle of Hop Bitters and used them unknown to my family. I soon began to improve and gained so fast that my husband and family thought it strange and unnatural; but when I told them what had helped me, they said, "Hurrah for Hop Bitters! long may they prosper, for they have made mother well and us happy."—The Mother.

What Gen. Johnston Did Say.

WASHINGTON, JANUARY 7.—The Post will publish to-morrow morning the following letter from Gen. Joe Johnston:

To the Editor of the Daily Post:—Sir:—When the article headed "Gen. Johnston's Narrative" appeared in the Philadelphia Press of December 18th, I wrote to the editor that the conversation on which the narrative was evidently founded was not an interview, and the article so inaccurate that I would not undertake to correct it. This was published by him promptly. As that article seems to be treated in the South as accurate, and I am charged with having accused Mr. Davis of appropriating Confederate funds, I said on their occasion was an accidental conversation with one whom I considered much above the class of interviewers. Therefore I had no fears of the publication of what I might say, and said a good deal that nothing would induce me to say for publication, and especially on the subject of Confederate funds at Greenville. That part of the conversation was in connection with the subject of the application, twice made by me, that part of that money should be paid to the army I then commanded in North Carolina, which had received no real pay for many months. (Signed) J. E. JOHNSTON.

Dr. Pierce's "Golden Medical Discovery" has become so thoroughly established in public favor that were it not for the forcefulness of people it would not be necessary to call attention to its power to cure consumption, which is scrofula of the lungs, and other blood diseases, as eruptions, blotches, pimples, ulcers, and "liver complaint."

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Where persons desire it, we also furnish the "Ideal" Coffee-pot, the simplest, best and cheapest coffee-pot in existence. Grocers who sell our Coffee keep them. Ask for descriptive circular.

ILK & F. B. THURBER & CO., Importers, Wholesale Grocers and Coffee Roasters, New York.  
P. S.—As the largest dealers in food products in the world, we consider it our interest to manufacture only pure and wholesome goods and pack them in a tidy and satisfactory manner. All goods bearing our name are guaranteed to be of superior quality, pure and wholesome, and dealers are authorized to refund the purchase price in any case where customers have any reason to doubt the purity of the goods. It is therefore to the interest of both dealers and consumers to use Thurber's brand.

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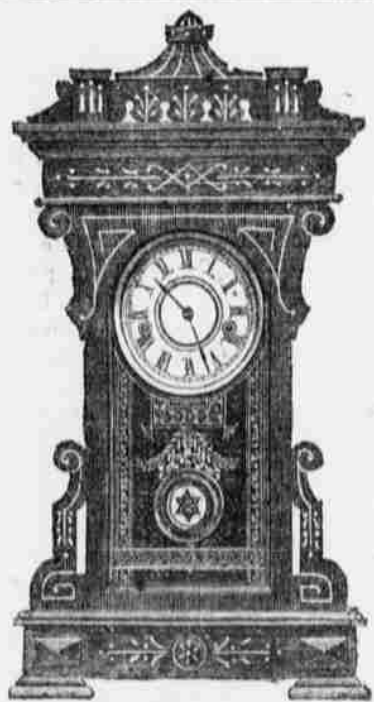
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